

Action Taken Report on Open Defecation Free (ODF) Drive

(January 2020)

at Village Badheri and Village Buterla
under Swachhta Action Plan (SAP)

of

Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India



Submitted by

**Mehr Chand Mahajan
DAV College for Women**

Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.) - 160036

Our Beacon of Light



MAHARISHI SWAMI DAYANAND SARASWATI

Our Guide and Mentor



Dr. Punam Suri Ji, Padma Shree Awardee

Hon'ble President

DAV College Managing Committee

New Delhi



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi initiated flagship Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) programme in 2014 to make Swachhta a way of life for Indians and achieve the goal of Swachh Bharat. The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), aims towards improving the levels of cleanliness in rural areas through Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities and making the rural areas- Open Defecation Free (ODF), clean and sanitized.

Higher education institutions are the springboard to a Swachh & Healthy Bharat .Keeping this in mind, Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India selected Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for women as one of the HEI among 40,000 existing in India to transform the infrastructural and unhygienic social cultural habitat of its neighborhood villages through community engagement activities. This responsibility has been entrusted to our college as a gesture of recognition – Mehr

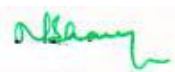
Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women being the only one from Chandigarh to have figured in the Swachh Campus Ranking 2018 of MHRD, Government of India.

The college launched ODF drive under Swachhata Action Plan (SAP), MHRD in 2019 with a motivated and enthusiastic team of Nodal officers and students to achieve ODF status for its two adopted villages. The college has always been at the forefront in undertaking ventures that can change the lives of the deprived sections of the society by making them aware of the quintessential need for hygiene.

The institute has always been committed to finding out the practical solutions to the challenges involved in sanitation and hygiene to make the environment safe and clean. The ODF activities done by the college hence are not just few allocated hours of activity, but are conducted to imbibe in our young students - a strong feeling of service towards the poor & underprivileged sections of the society especially in creating awareness about hygiene. This culture will go a long way in spreading the awareness for clean & healthy environment around us and affect the lives of people in a significant way.

I take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to our guide and mentor, our worthy President Dr. Punam Suri Ji, Padma Shree Awardee, DAV College Managing Committee (DAV CMC), New Delhi. I am indebted to Shri. H.R. Gandhar, Hon'ble Vice President and Sr. Governing Body Member DAV CMC, New Delhi and also to Sh. Shiv Raman Gaur, Director Higher Education, DAV CMC, New Delhi for their wholehearted involvement and selfless service to the cause of education and their efforts in promoting the DAV philosophy of selfless service of humanity. I also express my sincere thanks to my colleagues Dr. Vandana Sharma and Dr. Sandeep Kaur for their dedicated endeavours to generate awareness about the MHRD initiative.

Best Wishes !



Dr. Nisha Bhargava
[Principal]



Dr. Vandana Sharma
Asst. Professor
Department of Food Science
& ODF Programme Nodal Officer
Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women

Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) is another manifestation of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Swachh Bharat aiming towards improving the levels of cleanliness in rural areas through Solid and Liquid Waste Management. The mission of ODF drive under SAP is to enable higher educational institutions to work with MGNCRE Project Officer in two adopted villages to identify development challenges and make the rural areas- Open Defecation Free, clean and sanitized. The institute ensures active participation of its students as well as faculty members in such outreach programmes to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and its application towards social development.

In this program, the student volunteers under the guidance of ODF programme Nodal officers interacted with the villagers and learned about their daily issues related to sanitation practices. This helped the students to understand the real life problems in a better way, develop leadership skills, take ownership of the projects and develop empathy for all sections of the society. I appreciate the efforts put up by the team members to find out practical solutions to challenges related to sanitation and hygiene in rural areas. The highly committed ODF team is involved in effective planning as well as execution of all the ODF programmes on continued basis.

I take this opportunity to express my reverential regards to our mentor, Dr. Punam Suri Ji, Padma Shree Awardee, Hon'ble President, DAV College Managing Committee (DAV CMC), New Delhi. I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Nisha Bhargava, our worthy Principal, for her valuable inputs, guidance and support during SBSI 2019. Her concern for the environment has always been a driving force that motivates us to work for betterment of society at large. I wish to thank Dr. Sandeep Kaur for her support and also congratulate and extend my best wishes to all student volunteers who have made this journey successful and memorable.

Open Defecation Free (ODF) Drive 22nd January 2020

The activity held under Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) - Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) along with Mehr Chand Mahajan College DAV College for Women, Chandigarh.



Date: 22.01.2020

Venue: Village Badheri and Village Buterla

Programme Co-Coordinator

- 1) Mr. Priyavart Sharma, Senior Faculty, Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India
- 2) Dr. Vandana Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh
- 3) Dr. Sandeep Kaur, Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh

Student Team Leader: Ms. Simran Kaur (B.Com final year) and NSS team consisting of 30 student Volunteers.

Safe sanitation means promotion of safe disposal of human excreta, right use of toilet and avoiding open defecation as well as management of solid and liquid waste. Poor sanitation is a primary cause for many deadly diseases, deaths among children under age five, contamination of ground water sources, loss of family income on account of increased health costs, and compromised human dignity. In managing safe sanitation at each level understanding impacts of poor sanitation and implementation of safe sanitation processes is considered crucial. This requires active contribution of all the key stakeholders. To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on safe sanitation, the Prime Minister of India launched the Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October, 2014. The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) aims towards improving the levels of cleanliness in rural areas through Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities and making the rural areas- Open Defecation Free (ODF), clean and sanitized.

With this aim, MHRD along with Mehr Chand Mahajan College DAV College for Women, Chandigarh have collaborated to promote Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) mission [SBM-G] for achieving ODF status for its two adopted villages – Badheri and Butrela through a pilot level Swachhta Action Plan (SAP).



Objectives of the Practice

The Swachhta Bharat Abhiyan works with the idea that physical and mental cleanliness are very important for a longer and healthy life.

- To examine the previous condition of the village.
- To look upon the progress made in last four months after the visit.
- To encourage volunteers to keep themselves and their surroundings clean every day.
- To encourage volunteers to make the people aware regarding cleanliness.

ODF_SAP Mission Execution Study



Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) along with Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh launched the Swachh Bharat (Gramin) Mission [SBM-G] for

achieving Open defecation Free (ODF) status for its two adopted villages – Bhaderi and Butrella through a pilot level Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) coordinated by Mr. Priyavart Sharma from, MHRD, Government of India along with faculty members of the college (Dr. Vandana Sharma and Dr. Sandeep Kaur) and NSS student volunteers.



The Practice

Under this programme, three major visits were conducted by the ODF action team. The first visit done in Sept, 2019 focused on conducting a complete survey of the two villages by student volunteers teams. This survey was basically based on the type of lavatories being used, quality of hygiene and cleanliness in private and community toilet, defecation status etc. The survey also aimed to create awareness about the importance of keeping lavatories clean and the ill effects associated



with disease outbreaks. The second visit was done in the month of November 2019 where the coordinator assessed the water quality management and storage system in the two villages. He reviewed and discussed the various issues with the villagers related to availability and quality of water supply, functionality and maintenance of the sewerage system and storage facility available in the adopted villages.

The final visit (on 22 Jan 2020) was the impact study to follow up the actual implementation of the sanitation programme in these two adopted villages (Households, Anganwadi, Schools, Shops, Community areas etc.). Student volunteers interacted with the villagers to evaluate the level of awareness and level of implementation of the hygiene practices in their houses and surroundings. A short video portraying the outcome of the entire ODF drive in both the villages was finally compiled. The outcome of the ODF Action plan showed enthusiastic and positive response with active participation of villagers at various levels in maintaining sanitation and cleanliness as a daily practice.

Learning Outcomes

- An insight into the actual picture of sanitation, sanitation management and its related issues was obtained through the survey carried by the team while direct interaction with the villagers, school children, Anganwadi caretakers, housekeeping staff etc. This also helped in getting an idea of villagers overall behaviour and attitude towards sanitation and hygiene.



- The ODF mission helped to educate and increase the awareness among villagers regarding the importance of adopting hygienic practices and the subsequent ill-effects of open defecation and lack of clean sanitary habits on their health.



- Student volunteers themselves got apprised about the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) Open Defecation Free and actual implementation of the sanitation programme making our society and nation as a whole a better and healthy place to live.





- Villagers were enthusiastic about the various Government initiatives undertaken to make the population more aware about sanitation practices be adopted for a healthy tomorrow.
- A short video portraying the sustainable practices of the college and final outcome of the entire ODF drive in both the villages was finally compiled and sent to MGNCRE.

Link of Video : <https://youtu.be/1rtjPQnhLzo>

Evidence of Success



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